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SCIENCE

FRIDAY, JULY 16, 1915

INVESTIGATIONS AT THE NUTRITION
LABORATORY OF THE CARNEGIE IN-
STITUTION OF WASHINGTON,
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS¹

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CONTRARY to popular opinion the researches of the Carnegie Nutrition Laboratory do not follow for the most part the conventional lines of "nutrition investigations" with special emphasis upon the economic and sociological phases of the work. The admirable facilities and equipment of the United States Department of Agriculture fortunately make this unnecessary. The Carnegie Laboratory is, however, an outcome of the national nutrition investigations, for the late Professor W. O. Atwater, who was a pioneer in nutrition investigations of this country, wisely devoted a part of the government appropriation for nutrition investigations to an abstract study of the physiological effects of various nutrients upon the human body. This work was carried out in the chemical laboratory of Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn., and resulted in the construction of a special form of apparatus for studying both the respiratory products and the direct heat production of man, an apparatus properly designated by Professor Atwater as a "respiration calorimeter." Subsequently the board of trustees of the Carnegie Institution of Washington authorized the construction of a special laboratory for similar research in Boston.

It was believed that the appropriation for this laboratory, for a time at least, could best be subdivided into three main

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to Professor J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

¹ An address delivered before the department of chemistry at Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, New York, on May 10, 1915.